

December 14, 2011

Smarter Balanced  
Assessment Consortium

SBAC

e-Alert

SBAC

Connecticut State Department of Education

Bureau of Student Assessment

## Top News

The Content Specifications for Mathematics are available for a second round of review. This draft reflects revisions based on feedback from more than 200 individuals and organizations. Submit feedback on this final review of the Mathematics Content Specifications by Tuesday, January 3. The content specifications and instructions for providing feedback are available at: [www.SMARTERbalanced.org](http://www.SMARTERbalanced.org).

## e-Alert Q and A

School districts are considering handheld devices as replacements for laptops or printed textbooks. Will SBAC support the delivery of interim and summative assessments on tablets in addition to computers?

Even though tablets, e-readers, and smartphones are developing rapidly, today's products present challenges for delivering an online assessment. For example, at this time, almost all applications used by tablets differ from computer-based software with regard to capturing images from the screen. Testing software used by computers typically shuts down keyboard commands, such as "print screen" and "copy," to ensure test security. Tablet applications do not currently have this capability, meaning that snapshots of items could be saved. While security-sensitive applications may be developed in the near future, SBAC must begin developing and testing software in the next few months. SBAC will continue to monitor the progress of applications that enable alternatives to traditional computers.



### SBAC e-Alert

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Contact the Student Assessment Office at 860-713-6860 or 860-713-6890 with questions.

